October 16, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

MLW Blog: Monroe probate judge is new state court administrator

"The Michigan Supreme Court has selected Judge John A. Hohman, Jr., of the Monroe County Probate and Family Court, as the new State Court Administrator. Hohman, who has served on the Monroe county bench for 16 years, will head the State Court Administrative Office. He succeeds State Court Administrator Chad C. Schmucker, who is stepping down to become president of the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada."

Full story

Also see:

Honorable John A. Hohman, Jr. of Monroe named State Court Administrator *Press release*

The Detroit News: Keep kids in school and out of trouble

The editorial states "... Breaking this 'school-to-prison pipeline' is the object of an ambitious program recently under way in Michigan. Midland County Probate and Juvenile Judge Dorene Allen is an enthusiastic supporter of the project and will be one of the key proponents throughout the three-year project."

Full story

Macomb County Legal News: Spreading the word about conflict resolution

"Michigan residents can use free or low-cost mediation, arbitration and similar services to resolve their disputes — and state court officials hope more Michiganians will do so — in the wake of 'Conflict Resolution Day' this week.... Douglas Van Epps, director of the Office of Dispute Resolution, hopes the tribute boosts public awareness of Michigan's 18 community dispute resolution centers and their services."

Full story

Also see:

Note: The article also ran in the Oakland County Legal News.

Grand Rapids Legal News: Governor Snyder recognizes Michigan [Conflict] Resolution Day

Full story

Low-cost mediation, related services highlighted on "Conflict Resolution Day"

Press release

The Detroit News: Michigan AG: U-M could end alumni preference to boost minority enrollment

"The battle over affirmative action in Michigan's higher education could rest on whether the U.S. Supreme Court is convinced schools could boost minority enrollment through race-neutral means. A lawyer for the Michigan attorney general's office told the high court on Tuesday the University of Michigan could improve the diversity of the school if it dropped its practice of giving preference to the children of alumni."

Full story

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: U.S. Supreme Court justices ask sharp questions in Michigan affirmative action case

Full story

MLive.com: Michigan attorney general and opponents confident after Supreme Court arguments on affirmative action

Full story

Detroit Free Press: 2 Oakland County judges took days off for conference, but didn't go

"Judges from around the state gathered at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island in late August, taking time off from the bench for an educational conference. Two Oakland County Circuit Court judges took those days off and listed them as 'educational' days on their time cards. But they never showed up for the conference."

Full story

The Detroit News: Judge: Pontiac teen with life sentence eligible to apply for parole

"An Oakland Circuit judge Wednesday clarified the life sentence for a teenager who was 15 years old at the time he fatally shot two Pontiac women in a dispute over a counterfeit \$10 bill one of the victims allegedly paid him for marijuana. Semaj Moran, now 17, was convicted earlier this year of two counts of first-degree premeditated murder, two counts of felony murder and felony firearm in the February 2012 deaths Loretta Culpepper Fournier, 52, and Luann Robinson, 58, inside their Pontiac home." *Full story*

Detroit Legal News: Court of Appeals overturns \$4.85M wrongful death award (second article)

"The Michigan Court of Appeals has overturned a \$4.85 million wrongful death award issued by a jury to the family of a man who died in 2002 after being given a morphine overdose.... The court in a ruling this month said there was insufficient evidence that such an amount was warranted."

Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Oakland County Legal News.

Daily Press & Argus: Appeal denied for Livingston County man charged with setting girlfriend on fire

"The Michigan Court of Appeals upheld a Livingston County man's conviction for making a false report of terrorism, according to an opinion released today. Charles Evans Jones Jr., 53, was sentenced to 18-40 years in prison for each conviction of assault with intent to commit great bodily harm less than murder, aggravated stalking and false report or threat of terrorism." *Full story*

Also see:

WHMI 93.5 FM/Howell: Handy Man's Appeal Denied for Trying to Set Ex-Girlfriend on Fire

Full story

Daily Press & Argus: Drug court gains \$323K boost; System could receive even more from feds if program is successful

"The Livingston County drug court program could expand, thanks to a sizable grant from the federal government. Court officials confirmed Tuesday that the court system was notified it has received a \$323,206 grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration."

Full story

Grand Rapids Legal News: Michigan Supreme Court hears arguments on medical marijuana

"The issues at stake in John Ter Beek v. City of Wyoming as it has moved up the court system have very little to do with marijuana, medical or otherwise, and everything to do with state preemption of local laws and federal preemption of state law."

Full story

The News-Herald/Southgate: DETROIT: Lincoln Park court employee accused of embezzlement

"A bond clerk at 25th District Court in Lincoln Park will be arraigned Tuesday on six counts of felony embezzlement. The clerk, a 31-year-old Allen Park resident, is accused of embezzling \$7,380 from the court and will be arraigned in 33rd District Court in Woodhaven, said Mark Bernardi, assistant Wayne County prosecutor.... The Thirty-third District Court is handling the arraignment to avoid any conflict of interest, Bernardi said."

Full story

Also see:

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Lincoln Park bond clerk arraigned on embezzlement charges

Full story

Oakland County Legal News: Adoption Law examined

"The National Business Institute presented 'Adoption Law: Start to Finish' on Tuesday, Oct. 1, at the Embassy Suites Hotel Detroit-Southfield. Speaking at the seminar were Lauran Howard, chief of Adoptions and Juvenile Support Services for Oakland County Circuit Court; Dearborn attorney Herbert Brail; and Stephanie Benedict of Benedict Law Office."

Full story

The Oakland Press: Oakland County drug program praised during breakfast

"... [Nathan's family] was among speakers at a Tuesday morning breakfast in Bloomfield Hills, organized by the RESTORE Foundation, in order to 'salute the Oakland County Adult Treatment Court and Juvenile Drug Court.' During the event, a proclamation declaring October the month of adult treatment and juvenile drug court awareness in Oakland County was read."

Full story